



## **Hippos (Sussita) 2003 – 4<sup>rd</sup> Season**

### **Locus Card**

Locus No. L534

#### **Archaeological Context**

Locus Status: closed

Locus Type: exposed sarcophagus

Field Manager: Schuler

Area: Northeast Church:

Opening Date: 22 July

Opening Height: 131.21

Closing Date: 22. July

Closing Height: 130.71

#### **Locus Location**

General Description of Borders:

Head of south aisle in chancel

Loci

Below	Above	North	South	West	East	Identical
L501	F517	L506	L506	W514	L535	
		F516	F516	L528		
		L507	L529			

	X coordinate	Y coordinate
North East	523.55	608.25
South West	624.16	606.00

#### **General Description and Soil Analysis**

plaster and marble facing of the sarcophagus

#### **Chronology of Excavation**

22 July

- In Square B3
  - Removed plaster and side pieces from sarcophagus.
  - Side marble pieces were removed from the tomb. These side pieces were clearly embedded into the plaster of F517. After the sarcophagus and its lid were put in place, the marble side pieces were placed into the wet plaster base of F517.

- The sarcophagus was faced on all sides:
  - East – a single piece of unadorned marble 3.5cm thick and 65cm wide. The top portion is broken and missing.
  - South – two thicker pieces faced the tomb to the level of the top of the lid (142x45x6.5cm and 63x44x6.5cm)
  - West – a single piece of marble 3.5 cm thick and 65 cm wide. It too was broken at the level of the top of the sarcophagus box, with the top pieces coarsely plastered back. A inscribed cross was discovered under the crude plaster.
  - North – Four pieces of marble faced the north side. From east to west
    - 57x45x3.5 broken in three pieces and plastered back in place
    - 34.5x29(45?)x2.5 – the top half is missing and was filled in by plaster
    - 61x51.5x4.5 inscribed with teutonic cross and alpha and omega
    - 56x47x4.5 broken horizontally and repaired by plaster.
  - Extensive use of plaster in the final phase:
    - Filled gap between east end (missing marble piece) and W509
    - On north side, plaster repaired broken pieces and filled in missing piece
    - On east side, plaster repair broken marble and obscured cross.
    - Plaster leveled top of sarcophagus
    - Plaster sealed W514 over chancel screen channel
- A rather large gap in the NW corner of the sarcophagus suggest a previous opening of the tomb

## Pottery and Small Finds

1869 L534	NEC	B3	130.88	130.73	22-Jul-03	Schuler	plaster layer	<input type="checkbox"/> FL <input type="checkbox"/> W <input type="checkbox"/> BS <input type="checkbox"/> Z <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> P <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PL <input type="checkbox"/> T <input type="checkbox"/> L         plaster on sarcophagus; final reading incomplete
								<input type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> V <input type="checkbox"/> BR <input type="checkbox"/> LT <input type="checkbox"/> S <input type="checkbox"/> ST <input type="checkbox"/> LP <input type="checkbox"/> HZ
								<input type="checkbox"/> NP <input type="checkbox"/> CU <input type="checkbox"/> MS <input type="checkbox"/> C <input type="checkbox"/> A <input type="checkbox"/> IN <input type="checkbox"/> BL